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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6971

BILL NUMBER: HB 1512

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 10, 2009

BILL AMENDED: Feb 10, 2009

SUBJECT: Silver Alert.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. GiaQuinta

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill creates the Silver Alert Program to inform the public about missing endangered adults. The bill defines "missing endangered adult". It renames the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children as the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children and Missing Endangered Adults (Clearinghouse). The bill requires the clearinghouse to operate the amber alert program and the silver alert program.

This bill also provides that the Clearinghouse may provide notification to a broadcaster or an electronic billboard operator; (1) located in a particular county; or (2) who provides services in a particular county, in which a missing endangered adult is likely to be located. The bill defines "rescue services provider" and specifies that reports of missing endangered adults may be given to rescue services providers. This bill establishes the duties of rescue services providers upon receipt of a report of a missing endangered adult. It also makes conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) *Summary:* This bill will increase the workload of the Indiana State Police (ISP) to include information regarding missing endangered adults in the Clearinghouse, along with missing children. The bill expands the population of individuals that can be listed in the Clearinghouse and can potentially increase the information that law enforcement would be required to transmit to Silver Alert program participants. Total expenditures to provide a Silver Alert Program are estimated to be \$76,000 per year.

Additionally, the bill requires ISP to adopt rules concerning the type of proof necessary to qualify a missing

person as a missing endangered adult to be eligible for Silver Alert Program transmission. This provision will increase the workload of ISP.

Background Information: The Indiana State Police report that the costs of creating a Silver Alert Program would be minimal. In order to expand the current capabilities to provide a Silver Alert Program, costs would increase to provide a web site, phone support, and process phone calls that may be received regarding missing endangered adults. Total expenses for the establishment of a website, maintenance of the website, establishment of two toll-free telephone lines, maintenance of the phone lines, and transfers of the toll-free line are estimated to be approximately \$4,000 per year.

ISP anticipates requiring two clerical positions to input missing persons information in the Clearinghouse. Expenses for these two positions are estimated to be \$72,000 for salary, benefits, Internet support, computer support, and furniture.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: (1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; (4) funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

ISP reverted \$3.1 M to the General Fund at the end of FY 2008. ISP reported that the current Amber Alert program is funded by corporate partners and funding for the Silver Alert Program might be provided by a network of corporate partnerships.

Currently, Missouri has an Endangered Persons Advisory that is similar to the Amber Alert system. This system is used to develop and coordinate the efforts of law enforcement and the media in order to increase public participation in safely recovering endangered missing persons by increased communication and effective resource sharing. Missouri's program is a cooperative effort between the Missouri Department of Public Safety, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Missouri Police Chiefs Association, the Missouri Sheriffs Association, and the Missouri Broadcasters Association. Missouri reported that there are no costs associated with the program.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) This bill will increase the workload of local law enforcement and emergency services providers to provide identifying information and prepare investigative reports concerning missing endangered adults for inclusion in the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children and Missing Endangered Adults. Actual increases in workload will depend on how many reports of missing endangered adults are received by local law enforcement.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: ISP.

Local Agencies Affected: Local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Captain Beck, ISP; National Association of State Units on Aging,

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.